



The

# GARzette



The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
February 2020 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 29, Issue 2

## Congratulations to the TechFest Winners



ICOM IC-7300: KD4HNX Dallas Mellichamp



Yaesu FTM-400XDR/DE: WD4JEM Eddie Foust



Kenwood TS-590SG: KN4DLS Craig Bailey



Yaesu FT-4X: NI2Y Mark Clark

# Message from the President

I just returned from Orlando and Hamcation very tired, but glad I attended again this year. One of the things I noted had changed this year was adding an additional track of Forums. The list of Forum topics expanded with some very interesting ones.

On the first day, I sat in on the AuxComm and the Open Source forums. For those unfamiliar with AuxComm, this is a new program and certification under the FEMA Incident Management structure in emergency communications. Many in ARES are familiar with the IS-100 and IS-700 training that many ARES members and first responders take that introduces the Incident Command structure and how communications and specifically Amateur Radio fits into the structure. AuxComm is a new position in the ICS structure that not only includes Amateur Radio, but other types and modes of communications such as FRS, GMRS and even CB. The interesting part of the qualifications to take the class and get certified is that an Amateur Radio license is one of the prerequisites. Several of our GARS members participated in a weekend training course back in November and are completing their certification. The Orlando forum was interesting to see how other states in the southeast are coming up to speed on AuxComm.

The second forum I attended focused on the Open Source community that's developing the digital radio hotspots. The creators of the ZUMspot, DV Mega and MMDVM software that supports many of these multi-mode hotspots each provided insight into their products and how they have and continue to develop. The new generation of hotspots are very interesting as they support multiple digital modes including D-STAR, DMR, Fusion, P25, POCAG and NXDN. Many of these hotspots allow you to bridge between digital modes such as DMR to Fusion. It has really opened up the digital voice world.



**"Hamcation is always an opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones."**

As far as new products, ICOM had a working prototype of their new IC-705 low power, HF, VHF, UHF multi-mode radio in their booth. It looks like it's a low power version of their IC-7300 in a smaller package and even supports a removable battery. That's the same battery as the ID-51A HT. Icom says they hope to have it out before Dayton this year.

Of course Hamcation is a great opportunity to stock up on the small parts you need and I restocked my PL-259s, some specific adapters I needed, a new die for my crimper to do RG-8 size coax connectors and a handy coax stripper for RG-8.

A recent trend at Hamfests are booths for other Hamfests promoting their upcoming event. The Stone Mountain Hamfest was on display promoting our close to home event and Georgia's largest Hamfest to attract new visitors and vendors.

Hamcation is always an opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones. While in the Stone Mountain Hamfest booth, I got to meet N1MM. Many will know him from the great contest logging software he provides. N1MM was the first contest logging software I used 15 years ago when I go back active on HF. Wow...that's the guy.

Until next month.....

73,

**WB4QDX, Club  
President**

***"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."***

[Author Unknown]

# GARS February Meeting and Workshop

## Finding Power Line Noise and other RFI

by Jeff. J. Stuparits, W4DD  
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 7:00 pm

## Brush Up on Your Life Saving Skills

by Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO  
Tuesday, February 18, 2020 7:00 pm

*GARS Officer Nominations are open at the January and February meetings;  
Elections will be held at the February meeting*

**Sports Aviation Complex—Hangar 1  
690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045**

**NOTE: Location Entrance to the Hangar has changed! See below link for more details!**  
[Updated Entrance Directions to EAA Hangar](#)

### INSIDE

GARS Happenings.....	Pg 4
In Other News .....	Pg 5
Gwinnett ARES Highlights ...	Pg 8
Net Manager's Corner .....	Pg 9
GARS Membership Page.....	Pg 10
Mtg / Workshop Minutes.....	Pg 12
Contests and Hamfests .....	Pg 13
GARS Event Schedule .....	Pg 14
VE Testing / Schedules .....	Pg 15

### GARS Communications

<u>2 Meter Repeaters</u> 147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5 147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2	<u>6 Meter Repeater</u> 53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone (Offline for Maintenance)
<u>1.25 Meter Repeater</u> 224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0, 1.6 MHz Offset	<b>Other Resources:</b> <u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR
<u>70 Cm Repeaters</u> 444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5 442.100(+) MHz Tone 100 442.325(+) MHz Tone 100	<u>D-STAR</u> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)

**Don't forget  
to support our  
advertisers at the  
back of the  
GARzette.**

Snail Mail Address:  
GARS  
P.O. Box 492531  
Lawrenceville, GA 30049

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org) Bill Eggers—WB2RIS 470-238-9603





# GARS Happenings

## 20 Years ago in the February 2000 GARzette:

- TechFest 2000 was rescheduled to March 11 due to threat of inclement weather;
- This month's "On The Air" by Karl Phillips, K4GZZ, features Bill Stewman, W4RQR;
- Paul Brisendine K4HCM writes on how he got his start in Amateur Radio;
- Eddie Foust WD4JEM discusses upcoming "paddle" events (boating, not CW);
- ARES was kept busy responding to a northern GA ice storm;
- The FCC and ARRL publish recommendations on who to ask about the recent FCC restructuring changes;
- There will be some delays getting Amateur Radio ready on the International Space Station;
- Spread Spectrum inventor and actress Hedy Lamarr dies at the age of 86.



You can always browse the GARzette archive at <http://www.gars.org/newsletters>

73, *Bill*, WB2RIS, GARzette Editor

## TechFest VE Session Results

Hello!

We had a great exam session at our TechFest. 8 out of 11 applicants passed!

Exam session results:

- 3 new Technician;
- 3 upgraded to General;
- 2 upgraded to Extra.

Special thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made this exam session possible:

- Brian, KD4UYP
- Russell, AB4QQ
- Frank, KV4SP

- Dave, K8WDJ
- Steve, WB2OGY
- Bob, K4CQO
- Bill, WB4WTN
- Sid, N4NQ (Co-CVE)
- Don, KK4NJM (Co-CVE)
- Karen, AB4NW
- Jamie, KX4HA
- Richard, KM4SWL
- Bill, WR1TR
- Rick, N4XYY

Thanks & 73,

*Dave Bruse*, W4DTR (CVE)

GARS VE Team Leader  
Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

## GARS HELP WANTED

- Dave Bruse, W4DTR, is requesting assistance for the Workshop Committee:
  - Workshop Secretary: take notes on workshop attendance, topic(s), speaker(s), suggestions for future workshops, questions requiring follow-up during each workshop (as published in the GARzette Workshop minutes page).
- GARzette Editor — Looking for someone to become the next GARzette Editor, starting off as a GARzette Committee member / Assistant Editor. Experience with Microsoft Publisher would be nice, but any experience with Microsoft Office products is helpful. Most of the content is supplied by others, but occasionally you may wish to write content, especially in your area of expertise. If you are interested, please contact Bill Eggers, WB2RIS at [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org).

If you're interested in volunteering for one of these positions, please contact one of the GARS Officers. Supporting GARS activities is an important part of what we do and help from club members is needed.

[PS— Articles to publish in the GARzette, either written by GARS members or published elsewhere, are always welcome. —Ed.]

# In Other News

## ARRL Expands its Roster of Online Discussion Groups

ARRL's Committee on Communication with Members has launched three new online discussion forums as part of its ongoing efforts to enhance and improve communication between ARRL leadership and members or prospective members. The new forums, which focus on antenna law, regulatory issues, and support for new amateur radio licensees, will go live on Thursday, January 30, at 0400 UTC.

The committee launched the three new discussion groups on the basis of requests from the amateur radio community, to support ARRL's efforts to provide more resources for beginner-to-intermediate operators.

The online discussion program launched last fall with three forums — contesting, awards, and the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) — all open to the amateur radio community. The program was based on the success of the online ARRL-LoTW Group, which, for the past several years, has served to answer questions and generate discussions about ways to improve the service.

- ARRL New England Division Director and attorney Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, will moderate the [Antenna Law and Policy Forum](#). Hopengarten is the author of *Antenna Zoning for the Radio Amateur*.
- ARRL Regulatory Affairs Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, will moderate the [Regulatory Affairs](#) forum.
- *QST* Editor and ARRL Publications Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY, will moderate the [New Hams](#) forum.

ARRL IT Manager Michael Keane, K1MK, worked with Groups.io to set up the new groups. Those wishing to subscribe must use a Groups.io username and password, if they have one, or create a Groups.io account if they don't.

The new groups join an ARRL discussion forum lineup that already includes:

- [ARRL-Contesting](#), moderated by ARRL Contest Advisory Committee Chairman Dennis Egan, W1UE.
- [ARRL-Awards](#), moderated by ARRL Radiosport and Field Services Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ.
- [ARRL-IARU](#), moderated by IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ.
- [ARRL-LoTW](#), moderated by ARRL IT Manager Michael Keane, K1MK.

Everyone who subscribes to an ARRL Group is automatically subscribed to "ARRL Groups," an administrative feature that allows ARRL to convey routine announcements to subscribers of all ARRL groups, such as planned system outages.

ARRL expects to create additional online groups that focus on other areas of interest to radio amateurs, including ARRL activities, services, initiatives, and policies.

ARRL currently hosts some "members-only" online forums that include the topics of Awards and Contesting. While these forums will continue to operate, participants are being encouraged to post new topics in the new Groups.

All questions will be welcome, no matter how many times they have already been asked and answered, or how obvious the answers might be. Neither personal attacks nor foul language will be tolerated. Violators will immediately be placed on "moderated" status, meaning their subsequent posts will require Moderator approval. Civility and courtesy are expected, even when disagreeing.

The Committee believes that providing more opportunities for two-way discussion between the organization's leaders and the entire ham radio community will assist ARRL in truly serving the needs of this community. — Thanks to ARRL Communications Manager Dave Isgur, N1RSN

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-expands-its-roster-of-online-discussion-groups>





## In Other News (cont'd)

### Undersea Expedition Planned to Retrieve *Titanic*'s Radio Gear

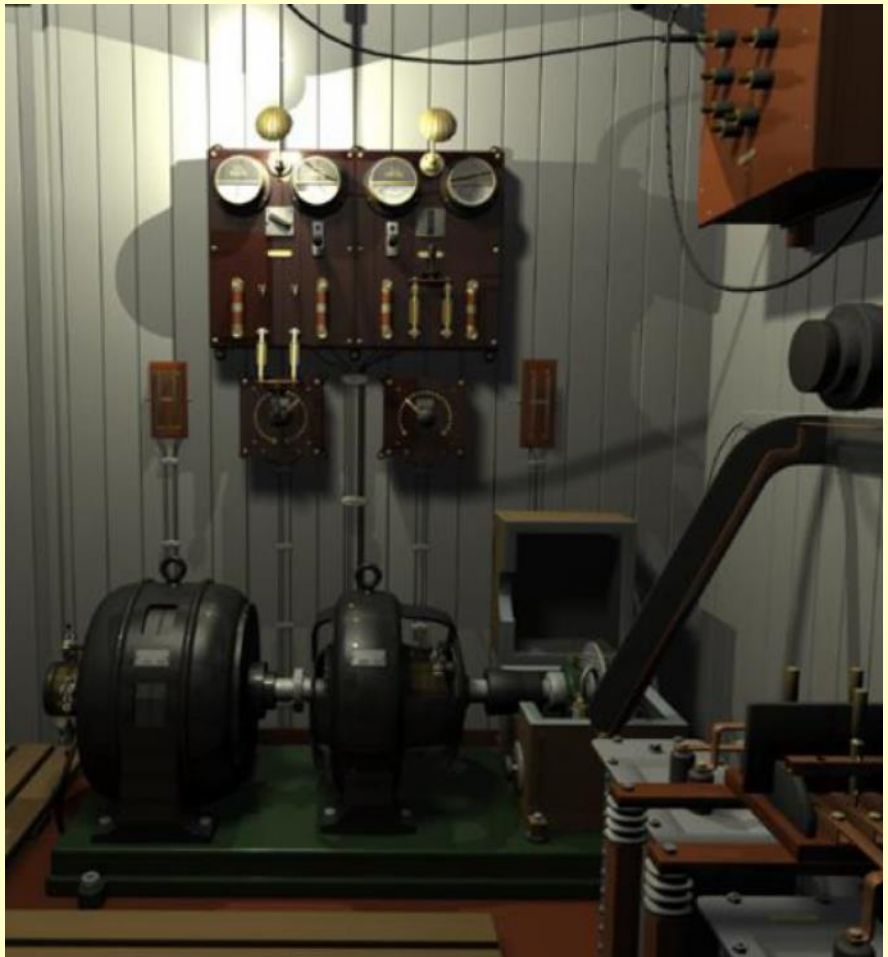
The company with sole rights to salvage artifacts from the RMS *Titanic* has gone to court to gain permission to carry out a “surgical removal and retrieval” of the Marconi radio equipment on the ship, a *Washington Post* [article](#) reports. The *Titanic* sank in 1912 on its maiden voyage after striking an iceberg in the North Atlantic. As the radio room filled with water, radio operator Jack Phillips transmitted, “Come at once. We have struck a berg. It’s a CQD, old man,” and other frantic messages for help, using the spark transmitter on board. CQD was ultimately replaced with SOS — which Phillips also used — as the universal distress call. The passenger liner RMS *Carpathia* responded and rescued 705 of the passengers.

As might be expected, the deteriorating Marconi equipment is in poor shape after more than a century under water. The undersea retrieval would mark the first time an artifact was collected from within the *Titanic*, which many believe should remain undisturbed as the final resting place of some 1,500 victims of the maritime disaster, including Phillips. The wreck sits on the ocean floor some 2 1/2 miles beneath the surface, remaining undiscovered until 1985.

A just-signed treaty between the UK and the US grants both countries authority to allow or deny access to the wreck and to remove items found outside the vessel. “This momentous agreement with the United States to preserve the wreck means it will be treated with the sensitivity and respect owed to the final resting place of more than 1,500 lives,” British Transport and Maritime Minister Nusrat Ghani said in a statement. The request to enter the rapidly disintegrating wreck was filed in US District Court in Eastern Virginia by RMS *Titanic*, Inc. of Atlanta, which said that it hopes to restore the *Titanic* radio transmitter to operating condition, if it is allowed to go forward.

The company plans to use a manned submarine to reach the wreck and then deploy a remotely controlled sub that would perforate the hull and retrieve the radio equipment.

Source: <http://www.arrrl.org/news/undersea-expedition-planned-to-retrieve-titanic-s-radio-gear>



A recreation of the *Titanic*'s radio room

## In Other News (cont'd)

### State QSO Party Challenge Announced

The [State QSO Party Challenge](#) is a competition comprised of other contests, namely state and provincial QSO parties. As explained on the website, the annual cumulative score program is open to any radio amateur who participates in any approved state QSO parties (SQPs).

Participants just need to submit their QSO party scores to [3830scores.com](http://3830scores.com) to enter the challenge. Participants' cumulative scores will be calculated by totaling up the number of reported contacts and multiplying by the number of SQPs entered in the year to date. Periodic standings will be posted to [3830scores.com](http://3830scores.com), the [QSOParty Groups.io forum](#), and the [StateQSOParty.com website](http://StateQSOParty.com).

“Using the number of QSO parties entered as a multiplier is expected to encourage radio amateurs to enter more state/province QSO parties,” the program’s organizers said. “The first SQPs in 2020 are the Vermont, Minnesota, and British Columbia QSO Parties in the first weekend of February.”

Entrants must make at least two contacts in a QSO party for it to count as a multiplier. [Full details](#) are available on the State QSO Party Challenge website. Challenge sponsors expressed appreciation to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, for developing the [SQP Activity Tracker](#) on [3830scores.com](http://3830scores.com).

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/state-qso-party-challenge-announced>



### New Amateur Extra Question Pool Released

The new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, has been released and is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators ([NCVEC](#)) website.

The [2020 – 2024 Extra-class pool](#) incorporates significant changes compared to the current 2016 – 2020 question pool, which expires on June 30. The number of questions in the pool was reduced from 712 to 622. The result was 239 modified questions, 49 new questions, and 139 questions removed due to changes in what was felt to be an abundance of outdated questions, while areas of new technology and subjects were added. In addition, an effort was made to balance the difficulty level, removing or replacing some questions deemed too easy or too difficult compared to the rest of the pool. The 2020 pool has 10 diagrams, which have been renumbered because the new question pool has two fewer than the 2016 question pool.

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-amateur-extra-question-pool-released>





# Gwinnett ARES Highlights

By Karen Whited, AB4NW

Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm at the EOC on Hi Hope Road. If you are interested in emergency communications, contact Hall Collier W4IGE at [w4ige@arrl.net](mailto:w4ige@arrl.net).



**JANUARY 18 - NORTHSIDE  
GWINNETT RESOURCE CENTER**

**ARES Trailer on Display**

## **STATE ARES MEETING - January 11 Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) Forsyth, Georgia**

ARES groups from all over the state attended the annual meeting for training and state ARES news. The large group gathering included updates on hospital operations, announcements, a presentation by the National Weather Service, the ARES MAT team, an outline of the ARES leadership progression plan, and a general discussion/Q&A session. After lunch, the attendees had their choice among five classes on digital modes, hospital operations, the ARES Connect time reporting program, station remote control (taught by Ray Bailey N4GYN), and the ARES Situational Awareness Map/Repeater Update Initiative. A highlight was the presentation of this year's *Movers and Shakers*, a group of individuals chosen by David Benoist AG4ZR, Section Manager, and Frank Dean K4SJR, Section Emergency Coordinator. These hard workers consistently go the extra mile and are known for their outstanding dedication and contributions throughout the year. Among the honorees from Gwinnett ARES were Larry Whited AB4NX and Lee Stone KT4LS (see bottom).

Gwinnett ARES members gathered in front of the vintage fire truck (see right) where we took our traditional picture: Hal W4IGE, Dave W3DJS, Steve WB2OGY, Jamie, KX4HA, Glen W3WWT, Mike N4MEP, Karen AB4NW, Jim KF4RX, Larry AB4NX, Mark N7GRB, and Charlie WS4TOT. Not pictured: Ray N4GYN, Alan W4AJM, and Dorothy N2DLJ.

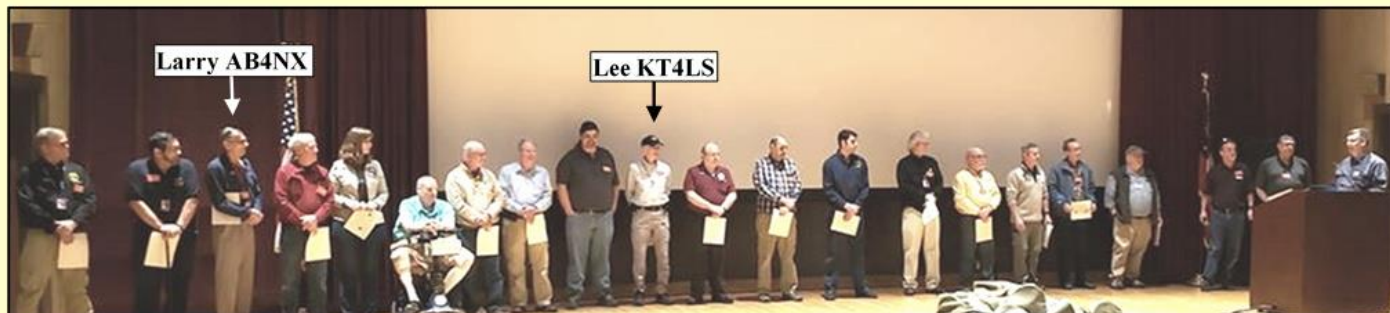


*Hal Collier W4IGE and  
Bill Hawkins WR1TR  
host a visitor*

*Karen Whited AB4NW  
is ready to assist visitors  
to the ARES table*



## **STATE ARES MEETING cont'd**





# Net Managers Corner

## Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

### **GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!**

**GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club** and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only SEVEN primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Don - KW4AL	Ray - N4GYN	Bill - KK4AUA
David - KA4KKF	Kevin - KK4WOG	Chuck - KK4TKJ
Russell - AB4QQ		

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I really need 26 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club.

The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at [KK4TKJ@arrl.net](mailto:KK4TKJ@arrl.net). Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

*Chuck McCord*, KK4TKJ

GARS Net Manager

# GARS Membership Page

## New GARS Members in January

**Benjamin Bogard (KM4DE)  
Dallas Mellichamp (KD4HNX)  
Kathy Mellichamp  
Emma Mellichamp  
Chad Sexton (KO4AXP)**

**New Members: 5**

**Total Members as of January 31, 2020  
353**

**Join GARS members for our  
weekly breakfast gathering at  
7:30 AM most Saturdays  
  
at**

**Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

**([Directions](#))**

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in February:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!  
From All of Us at GARS**

**Marvin Atherton (KG4FHB)  
Lauren Atkin  
Don Bagby (KK4NJM)  
Antoinette Bigham (KK4WOB)  
Shari Branson  
Luis Castellanos (KA3C)  
Michael Curtis (KK4WWB)  
Juan Manuel Dominguez (N5JMD)  
Eddie Foust (WD4JEM)  
Robert Hensey (K4VBM)  
Sandy Jackson (KJ4DRO)  
Suzy Jones (KK4MWC)  
Eva LaBerge (N4OCO)  
Bruce Lindsey (K0GNB)  
Edward Lodden (KX4KL)  
Michael Macleod (KN4VSI)  
Joseph Marlowe (KN4VCQ)  
Philip McCleary (N4LNE)  
Carlton McPherson (WA4ZUW)  
Charles Miller (KX4SB)  
Aaron Morris (KG4ALB)  
Robby Nelson (KK0BSA)  
Steven Richardson (N4STR)  
George Sensibar (W9RR)  
Hadassah Silva (KK4TGR)  
Donald Silva (NX1Q)  
Arthur Stone (KT4LS)  
Michael Swiderski (K4HBI)  
Emily Wagner (KN4GZJ)  
Sharon Willet (KM4TVU)**

## GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please e-mail the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP  
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ



**EXTRA! EXTRA!****Repeater Status**

6M	currently down
147.075	Operational in Snellville
147.255	Operational in Snellville
224.580	Operational in Grayson
442.100	Operational at Goshen Springs
442.325	Operational in Buford
444.525	Operational in Snellville

Link remote receivers being added

**Donating to GARS**

Your GARS donation can be used for a certain purpose by donating to one of these funds:

- GARS SK Memorial Fund for Education (to remember and honor Silent Keys);
- GARS Scholarship Fund (Administered by the ARRL for awarding scholarships);
- GARS General Fund (any club purpose).

GARS has joined these rewards programs (a portion of every purchase you make through these merchants may be donated to GARS):

- Amazon Smiles;
- Kroger Community Rewards program.

For more information on how to sign up for these rewards programs, or to donate to GARS, visit <http://gars.org/gars/donations-to-the-club>

**GARS on Social Media**

GARS has moved to Groups.io!



Join GARS on Groups.io:  
<http://gars.org/groups.io>



Visit GARS on Facebook:  
<http://gars.org/facebook>








Follow GARS on Twitter:  
<http://gars.org/twitter>

















Join GARS on YouTube:  
<http://gars.org/youtube>





**G A R S Volunteers****OFFICERS**

John Davis, President	WB4QDX	
Sandy Jackson, Vice President	KJ4DRO	
Joe Biddle, Secretary	AD4PZ	
Pam Meridy, Treasurer	WB1AKQ	
Randy Collins, Program Manager	N4COR	

**MANAGERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Karen Albritton, Membership Chair	KI4HPP	
Dave Bruse, VE Team & Workshop Leader	W4DTR	
David Adcock, Webmaster and Field Day Chair	KA4KKF	
Ralph Pickwick, Apparel Manager and Education Chair	KJ4CNC	
Glen Wendt, TechFest Chair	W3WWT	
Bill Eggers, GARzette Editor	WB2RIS	
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers, WAS / DXCC QSL Card Checker and Historian	ND4V	
Chuck McCord, Net Manager	KK4TKJ	
Mike Swiderski, Technical / RFI Advisor	K4HBI	
Joe Biddle, Winter Field Day Chair	AD4PZ	
Kyle Albritton, Multimedia Chair	W4KDA	
Don Stewart, Elmer Manager	KW4AL	
Dave Slotter, Georgia QSO Party Chair and Public Information Officer	W3DJS	

**DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES**

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA		Rick Cobb, N4XYX	
Mike Weathers, ND4V		Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN W4GR Trustee	

## GARS MEETING AND WORKSHOP MINUTES

### Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society GENERAL Meeting Minutes 1/14/2020

**President John Davis (WB4QDX) Opened the meeting at 7:00pm and Closed the meeting at 9:15pm EAA Facility, 690 Hanger Rd. Lawrenceville, GA.**

**Introductions and Visitors:** Visitors were recognized and full Introductions of the [ 57 ] attendees followed.

**Treasurer: Pam Meridy (WB1AKQ)** Gave the Club financial report.

**Membership Report: Karen Albritton (KI4HPP)** reported that Membership is at [ 347 ].

**Programs: Randy Collins (N4COR)** Announced Upcoming Programs:

- **February 2020** – Finding power line noise
- **March 2020** – Ham Radio Awards (The Fun of the Hunt)
- **April 2020** – Favorite Ham Radio Web sites and Podcasts
- **May - TBD**

**GARS Workshop - Dave (W4DTR)** outlined the next workshop sessions coming up:

- **January - Dave (W3DJS)** Raspberry PI for Ham Radio Part II.
- **February - TBD**
- **Suggestions for Workshop topics** – Send to [workshop@gars.org](mailto:workshop@gars.org) or see Dave (W4DTR) or Dave (W3DJS)

**GARS Education** – Ralph (KJ4CNC) mentioned:

- School Clubs are starting back up after the Holidays, They'll be looking for folks on the air to talk to and hopefully lower some 'Mic Fright' in the students. Listen from 5-6pm, Wednesday nights on the main GARS repeater for School Club station, KD4TGR.
- ARISS – Communicating with the Space Station Mid April. Status meeting held and they're ready for the event.
- HamCram scheduled for March (day TBD). Get ready to sign up.

### **TechFest - Glen (W3WWT) January 18th, 2020.**

- Everything is in place and ready to be kicked off
- Sign up to volunteer at TechFest. Folks are always needed to put on this premier GARS Event.
- Many great prizes. More than ever before.
- Setup to begin on Friday at 4pm and again at 8am on Saturday.

**Winter Field Day – Joe (AD4PZ)** stated everything is coming together for WFD will be held on **January, 25-26 2020.**

- What – WFD 4 transmitters. Exchange will be **W4GR 4I GA.**
- Where – Gwinnett Fire Station #31
- When – 2pm 1/25 to 2pm 1/26 (24-hour Event)
- Set up Saturday morning beginning at 9:30 am.

### **Fund Raisers**

- **(Dog Show)- David (KA4KKF)** March 26, 27, 28 & 29 at the Gwinnett Fairgrounds. 5:30am - 2 pm. Mark your calendars.
- **(Hamfest) – Mike (KK4KHS)** – On behalf of the Alford Memorial Radio Club, donated \$1,800 to GARS for our efforts.

**GARS Officers Elections** – Earl (AF4FG) read the nomination slate, consisting of:

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| • <b>John (WB4QDX)</b>  | <b>President</b>      |
| • <b>Sandy (KJ4DRO)</b> | <b>Vice President</b> |
| • <b>Joe (AD4PZ)</b>    | <b>Secretary</b>      |
| • <b>Pam (WB1AKQ)</b>   | <b>Treasurer</b>      |
| • <b>Randy (N4COR)</b>  | <b>Program</b>        |

### **Break:**

**Program** – AM/FM/TV Digital Broadcasting By Kevin Scott, K4GTR

**Submitted by: Joe Biddle (AD4PZ), GARS Secretary**

**(No Minutes available for the January Workshop meeting)**



## ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar  
> For more information click the links <

### February 2020

10-14 [School Club Roundup](#)  
15-16 [International DX – CW](#)

### March 2020

7-8 [International DX– Phone](#)

### April 2020

19 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

(no ARRL contests in May)

### June 2020

13-15 [June VHF](#)  
20 [Kid's Day](#)  
27-28 [Field Day](#)

### July 2020

11-12 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

### August 2020

1-2 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)  
15-16 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)  
16 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

### September 2020

12-13 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)  
12-14 [September VHF](#)  
19-20 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

### October 2020

10-11 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)  
19-23 [School Club Roundup](#)

### November 2020

7-9 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)  
21-23 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)  
28-29 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

### December 2020

4-6 [160 Meter](#)  
12-13 [10 Meter](#)  
20 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

### January 2021

1 [Straight Key Night](#)  
2 [Kid's Day](#)  
2-3 [RTTY Roundup](#)  
16-18 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### 02/01/2020 | [CARS Hamfest and Computer Show, ARRL SC State Convention](#)

Location: North Charleston, SC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Website: <https://wa4usn.org/>

### 02/07/2020 | [Orlando HamCation, ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention](#)

Location: Orlando, FL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Orlando Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.hamcation.com>

### 02/21/2020 | [Dalton Hamfest](#)

Location: Dalton, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Dalton Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4drc.com>

### 03/13/2020 | [Charlotte Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention 2020](#)

Location: Concord, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

### 03/01/2019 | [Alabama Section Convention \(BirmingHamfest\)](#)

Location: Trussville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Birmingham Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://birminghamfest.org>

### 05/15/2020 | [2020 ARRL National Convention at Dayton Hamvention®](#)

Location: Xenia, OH

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://hamvention.org>


For more information: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

When searching by division, remember some states adjacent to GA are in different divisions:

Southeastern: GA, AL, FL Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC

GARS Events Calendar for 2020	GARS Recurring Calendar
<p>TechFest (<a href="http://www.techfest.info">www.techfest.info</a>) January 18</p> <p>Winter Field Day January 25&amp;26</p> <p>General HamCram TBD</p> <p>Dog Show Fundraiser March</p> <p>Georgia QSO Party April 11&amp;12</p> <p>North metro area Fox Hunt April</p> <p>May Madness May</p> <p>Memorial Day Parade May 25</p> <p>ARC/KARC Hamfest June 6</p> <p>Field Day June 27&amp;28</p> <p>Tech HamCrams Mar 7&amp;14, Nov</p> <p>JOTA October</p> <p>Maker Faire TBD</p> <p>Stone Mt. Hamfest November 7&amp;8</p> <p>Holiday Party December</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Club Meeting</li> <li>♦ 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Workshop</li> <li>♦ 2nd Sunday of the Month at 2 pm: <a href="#">GARS Ham Exam Session</a> Fire Station #24 2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd Buford, GA 30519</li> <li>♦ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>♦ Every Monday at 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>♦ Most Saturdays at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast Golden Corral Restaurant 2155 Riverside Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30043</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>March GARS Meeting:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Finding Power Line Noise and other RFI</b> by Jeff. J. Stuparits, W4DD</p>	

#### GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
January 26	January 27	January 28	January 29	January 30	January 31	1
	7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net					7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net					7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>GARS VE Team Testing Session Starts at 2:00 pm</b>	7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Meeting				7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Workshop				7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
						7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive



## Metro Testing Sessions

*GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in, unless otherwise noted. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.*

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)

VEC: WCARS

Braselton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA

Contact: Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560

[w4rlg@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net)

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

VEC: WCARS

Hall County EOC

470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.

Contact: Perry Roper, KO4RD

(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday

10:00 AM

Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center

13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004

Contact: Ian Kahn, KM4IK

E-mail: [km4ik.ian@gmail.com](mailto:km4ik.ian@gmail.com)

### Third Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL

9:30 am (Appointments required, no walk-ins)

Stone Mountain Masonic Lodge

840 VFW Drive

Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Contact: Frank Haynes, KV4SP

Email: [fhaynes@vatmom.net](mailto:fhaynes@vatmom.net)

(678) 467-3712

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI

2 pm

Fire Station #24

Mall of Georgia Boulevard

Buford, GA 30519

Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

VEC: WCARS and W5YI

2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg

66 McElroy Street

Winder, GA 30680

Contact: Mike Wolcott, W4WYI

(404) 281-6581

E-mail: [W4WYI@ARRL.net](mailto:W4WYI@ARRL.net)

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results

### January Results

The GARS VE team had a very successful exam session this past Sunday (1/12). There were ten applicants. Eight of them upgraded; Two General and Six Technician.

The following VE team members made this exam possible:

- Russell Prevost, AB4QQ
- Robert Hoffman, K4CQO
- James Burns, KX4HA
- Steven Back, WD2OGY
- Gregg Freeman, W1ROO
- Richard Kitz, KM4SWL
- Frank Haynes, KV4SP
- Dave Bruse, W4DTR, CVE
- Don Bagby, KK4NJR, Co-CVE

73, *Sid*, N4NQ (Co-CVE)

GARS VE Team Leaders

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

GARS VE Website:

<http://gars.org/exams>



### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7 pm @ United Way Service Center

6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville

Contact: Jessie Clower, KB4WFK

(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech

VanLeer Elec. Building

Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.

For more information go to

[www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com) and click on "Test Sessions"

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC

Fire Station #1, Training Room

112 Haynes Street, Marietta, GA

Meeting begins at 7:00pm

Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ

1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta, GA

Meeting is at 7:30pm

Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library

1344 South Broad Street, Commerce, GA

Meeting is at 6:30pm

Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218

Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.

Georgia Tech Campus

Meeting at 7:00pm

Sawnee Amateur Radio Association

Beaver Toyota

1875 Buford Highway, Cumming, GA

Meeting at 6:30

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church

Annistown Rd & Spain Rd

Stone Mountain, GA

Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm

Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club

Board Room of The Shepherd Center

2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta, GA

at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept

Alpharetta Adult Activity Center

13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA

meeting at 7:30pm

Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more information, go to:

<http://www.gars.org/>

# Serving You From Coast to Coast and Around the World



**Order Toll-Free From a Location Near You  
Or Take Advantage of Secure 24-Hour Ordering:**

<http://www.hamradio.com>



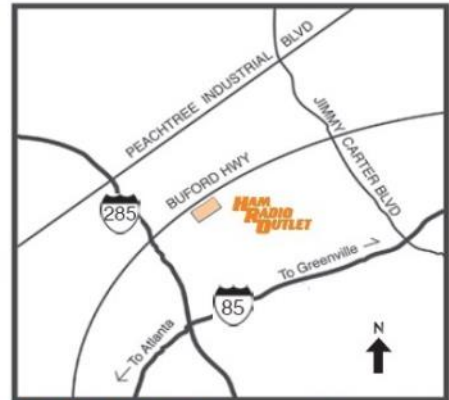
If your closest 800 number is busy, please call one of our other numbers.

Phone Hours: 9:30 am to 5:30 pm Monday – Saturday

All Stores Open 10am - 5:30pm Monday - Saturday

**24-Hour FAX Order Lines at all Store Locations**

**Ham Radio Outlet App available at:**



**ATLANTA, GA 30340**

6071 Buford Hwy, Doraville  
1 mile north of I-285  
(770) 263-0700  
(800) 444-7927  
24 Hour FAX (770) 263-9548  
Email: atlanta@hamradio.com

**Toll Free Numbers:**

Northeast	(800) 644-4476
West	(800) 854-6046
Southeast	(800) 444-7927
Mountain	(800) 444-9476
Mid-Atlantic	(800) 444-4799
New England	(800) 444-0047

**Manager:**  
Mark KJ4VO  
**Assistant Mgr:**  
James KK4WNX

David AI4XL  
Denise  
Ken KI4BQS  
Ray WN5FB  
Koz KD3GC



**INTERBOROREFRIGERATION  
HVAC/R**

All branch Ice Machine  
Walk-in Box Cooler

**Licensed by E.P.A.**  
Central A/C - Heater and Water Heater  
All Commercial Refrigeration Systems  
Ice Cream Freezer  
All Jobs Guaranteed

**30 years of Experience**

**Reparation & Maintenance**  
**Luis Castellanos**  
owner  
Address: 470 Bay lake pass,  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
Tel.: 610-816-8744  
Email: el-piloto52@hotmail.com

**Finally**  
A clog-free gutter  
with no fine print.

**The Real GUTTER PROTECTOR**  
NO CLIMB, NO OVERSIGHT, GUARANTEED

You'll never have to clean your gutters again. The Real Gutter Protector's Waterloov® System uses a patented design that slows water more effectively and draws water in more completely, with smaller openings that keep out more debris. <http://www.realgutterprotector.com>  
Atlanta, Georgia - (770) 630-1582

**Real Estate Broker**

**Century 21  
21 Results Realty**



**SHARON ADCOCK**

CRS, GRI, e-Pro,  
Relocation Expert,  
Associate Broker

[www.SharonAdcock.com](http://www.SharonAdcock.com)  
2920 Ronald Reagan Blvd  
Cumming, GA 30041



Not intended

**Buying\* Selling\* Investing  
For Any Real Estate  
Matters**

There has never been a  
better time to invest in Real  
Estate

**Inventory is LOW  
It's a Seller's Market**

Sharon@  
[SharonAdcock.com](mailto:SharonAdcock.com)  
Cell: 404-428-9127  
eFax 678-679-1383